

BOIES SCHILLER FLEXNER LLP  
Mark C. Mao (CA Bar No. 236165)  
mmao@bsflp.com  
44 Montgomery Street, 41st Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Telephone: (415) 293 6858  
Facsimile: (415) 999 9695

SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.  
William Christopher Carmody (pro hac vice)  
bcarmody@susmangodfrey.com  
Shawn J. Rabin (pro hac vice)  
srabin@susmangodfrey.com  
1301 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Floor  
New York, NY 10019  
Telephone: (212) 336-8330

MORGAN & MORGAN  
John A. Yanchunis (pro hac vice)  
jyanchunis@forthepeople.com  
Ryan J. McGee (pro hac vice)  
rmcgee@forthepeople.com  
201 N. Franklin Street, 7th Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Telephone: (813) 223-5505

*Attorneys for Plaintiffs; additional counsel  
listed in signature blocks below*

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART &  
SULLIVAN, LLP  
Andrew H. Schapiro (*pro hac vice*)  
andrewschapiro@quinnemanuel.com  
191 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2700  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Telephone: (312) 705-7400  
Facsimile: (312) 705-7401

Stephen A. Broome (CA Bar No. 314605)  
stephenbroome@quinnemanuel.com  
Viola Trebicka (CA Bar No. 269526)  
violatrebicka@quinnemanuel.com  
865 S. Figueroa Street, 10th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Telephone: (213) 443-3000  
Facsimile: (213) 443-3100

Jomaire A. Crawford (admitted *pro hac vice*)  
jomairecrawford@quinnemanuel.com  
51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10010  
Telephone: (212) 849-7000  
Facsimile: (212) 849-7100

*Attorneys for Defendant; additional counsel  
listed in signature blocks below*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, OAKLAND DIVISION**

CHASOM BROWN, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

Case No. 4:20-cv-03664-YGR-SVK

**JOINT MOTION FOR ISSUANCE OF  
LETTER OF REQUEST FOR  
INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL  
ASSISTANCE AND APPOINTMENT OF  
COMMISSIONERS TO TAKE  
EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER  
II, ARTICLE 17 OF THE HAGUE  
CONVENTION OF 18 MARCH 1970 ON  
THE TAKING OF EVIDENCE ABROAD  
IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS**

Referral: Hon. Susan van Keulen, USMJ

1 March 14, 2022

2 Submitted via ECF

3 Hon. Susan van Keulen, USMJ  
4 San Jose Courthouse, Courtroom 6  
4th Floor 280 South 1st Street  
5 San Jose, CA 95113

6 Re: Joint Submission for Issuance of Letter of Request for International Judicial  
Assistance  
7 *Brown v. Google LLC*, Case No. 4:20-cv-03664-YGR-SVK (N.D. Cal.)

8 Your Honor:

9 The parties in the above-referenced action seek the Court's assistance in order to take  
10 deposition testimony from witness Audrey An in Switzerland. Ms. Audrey An, an Engineering  
11 Director at Google LLC, is a witness who will offer testimony relevant to this action. However,  
because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Audrey An cannot travel to the U.S. for a deposition.  
12 Accordingly, the parties have agreed to conduct a remote live video deposition of Ms. Audrey An  
in Switzerland, but the parties must first meet certain foreign discovery conditions pursuant to the  
13 Hague Convention.

14 Switzerland, as a party to the Hague Convention, requires litigants to obtain permission from  
15 the Federal Office of Justice before taking deposition testimony of a witness located in Switzerland.  
To obtain such permission, the parties must have a United States District Court (1) appoint a Swiss  
16 commissioner and appoint representatives for the parties who will participate in the deposition as  
commissioners, and (2) request judicial assistance from the applicable Swiss authorities.  
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18 To that end, we write to request that the Court grant the parties' Joint Motion for Issuance  
of Letter of Request for International Judicial Assistance and Appointment Of Commissioners to  
19 Take Evidence Pursuant to Chapter II, Article 17 of The Hague Convention of 18 March 1970 on  
the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters. The parties have agreed that Remo  
20 Decurtins, a Swiss attorney representing the Defendants, will be appointed Swiss commissioner.  
The parties have also agreed that John A. Yanchunis will be appointed commissioner for Plaintiffs  
21 and Josef Ansorge will be appointed commissioner for Google.  
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23 Thank you for Your Honor's kind attention to this matter.  
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1 Plaintiffs and Defendant, Google LLC (hereinafter “Google”) hereby move the Court  
 2 pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 28(b) for entry of an order (the “Order”):

- 3 (1) Appointing John A. Yanchunis on behalf of Plaintiffs and Josef Ansorge on behalf of  
 4 Google, as commissioners (together, the “Commissioners”), pending the approval of the  
 5 Swiss authorities, to conduct the examination of witness Audrey An in Switzerland  
 6 pursuant to Chapter II, Article 17 of the Hague Convention of 18 March 1970 on the  
 7 Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters, T.I.A.S. No. 7444, 23  
 8 U.S.T. 2555 (“Chapter II of the Hague Convention”);
- 9 (2) Appointing Remo Decurtins as commissioner (the “Swiss Commissioner”), pending the  
 10 approval of the Swiss authorities, to supervise the examination of witness Audrey An in  
 11 Switzerland pursuant to Chapter II of the Hague Convention;
- 12 (3) Issuing a Letter of Request for International Judicial Assistance (“Letter of Request”)   
 13 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1781 and Chapter II of the Hague Convention;
- 14 (4) Directing submission of the Letter of Request for Assistance to the Swiss Federal Office  
 15 of Justice (“FOJ”) via the Cantonal Court of Zürich for the purpose of approving the  
 16 appointment of the Commissioner; and
- 17 (5) Granting such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

18 The parties have agreed to use the procedures of Chapter II of the Hague Convention to  
 19 facilitate the deposition of Audrey An in Switzerland, who has consented to being deposed there via  
 20 remote means. Under Chapter II, a deposition is supervised by a Swiss commissioner and conducted  
 21 by commissioners representing the parties and duly appointed by the Court in the U.S. proceeding,  
 22 all of whom are authorized to proceed by the FOJ at the request of the U.S. tribunal. This procedure  
 23 will not restrict the scope of discovery otherwise permissible under the Federal Rules of Civil  
 24 Procedure.

25 The steps to proceed under Chapter II of the Hague Convention are as follows:

- 26 1. The Court must duly appoint one or several commissioner(s) for the purpose of taking  
 27 evidence abroad. A proposed order for the Court to appoint commissioners is attached hereto  
 28 as Exhibit A (the “Proposed Order”).

- 1       2. The Court must issue a Letter of Request to the FOJ for authorization to take evidence  
2       abroad. A proposed Letter of Request is attached hereto as Exhibit B (the “Proposed Letter  
3       of Request”).
- 4       3. The necessary application for authorization (the “Swiss Application”), with the Proposed  
5       Order and the Proposed Letter of Request attached to it, must be filed with the FOJ via the  
6       Central Authority in the canton where the evidence is to be taken, *i.e.*, the High Court of the  
7       Canton of Zurich, International Judicial Assistance, Hirschengraben 13/15, 8021 Zurich 1,  
8       Switzerland.<sup>1</sup> Defendant will undertake this step if the Court grants the instant motion.
- 9       4. Upon approval from the FOJ and subject to the terms contained in the Proposed Letter of  
10      Request and/or the Swiss Application, the parties will arrange for a live video deposition.  
11      Remo Decurtins will be present in person at the deposition of Ms. Audrey An to supervise  
12      proceedings.
- 13      5. The deposition will take place at the Swiss offices of Quinn Emanuel at Dufourstrasse 29,  
14      8008 Zürich, Switzerland. Ms. Audrey An has agreed to voluntarily comply by proceeding  
15      pursuant to Chapter II of the Hague Convention.
- 16      6. Neither the entry of the Proposed Order, the Proposed Letter of Request, the submission of  
17      the Swiss Application nor the conduct of the deposition pursuant to Chapter II of the Hague  
18      Convention shall constitute or operate as a waiver of the attorney-client privilege, the work  
19      product doctrine, or any other privileges, rights, protections, or objections that may apply to  
20      that evidence under the laws of Switzerland, or of the United States, nor as a concession that  
21      any assertion of any such privilege, right, protection, or objection is necessarily valid.

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27      <sup>1</sup> The application is sent to the competent Central Authority, *i.e.*, the High Court of the Canton  
28      of Zurich, International Judicial Assistance, Hirschengraben 13/15, 8021 Zurich 1, Switzerland.  
After examining the Request, the Central Authority will forward the application to the FOJ.

1 DATED: March 14, 2022

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3 QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART &  
SULLIVAN, LLP

BOIES SCHILLER FLEXNER LLP

4 /s/ Andrew H. Schapiro

/s/ Mark C. Mao

5 Andrew H. Schapiro (admitted *pro hac vice*)  
andrewschapiro@quinnemanuel.com

Mark C. Mao (CA Bar No. 236165)  
mmao@bsflp.com

6 Teuta Fani (admitted *pro hac vice*)  
teutafani@quinnemanuel.com

Sean Phillips Rodriguez (CA Bar No. 262437)  
srodriguez@bsflp.com

7 191 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2700  
8 Chicago, IL 60606

Beko Reblitz-Richardson (CA Bar No. 238027)  
brichardson@bsflp.com

Telephone: (312) 705-7400

44 Montgomery Street, 41<sup>st</sup> Floor

9 Facsimile: (312) 705-7401

San Francisco, CA 94104

Tel: (415) 293 6858

Fax: (415) 999 9695

10 Diane M. Doolittle (CA Bar No. 142046)  
11 dianedoolittle@quinnemanuel.com

James W. Lee (*pro hac vice*)  
jlee@bsflp.com

12 Sara Jenkins (CA Bar No. 230097)  
sarajenkins@quinnemanuel.com

Rossana Baeza (*pro hac vice*)  
rbaeza@bsflp.com

13 555 Twin Dolphin Drive, 5th Floor  
Redwood Shores, CA 94065

100 SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 2800  
Miami, FL 33130

14 Telephone: (650) 801-5000

Tel: (305) 539-8400

Facsimile: (650) 801-5100

Fax: (305) 539-1304

15 Stephen A. Broome (CA Bar No. 314605)  
16 stephenbroome@quinnemanuel.com

William Christopher Carmody (*pro hac vice*)  
bcarmody@susmangodfrey.com

17 Viola Trebicka (CA Bar No. 269526)  
violatrebicka@quinnemanuel.com

Shawn J. Rabin (*pro hac vice*)  
srabin@susmangodfrey.com

18 Crystal Nix-Hines (Bar No. 326971)  
crystalnixhines@quinnemanuel.com

Steven Shepard (*pro hac vice*)  
sshepard@susmangodfrey.com

19 Alyssa G. Olson (CA Bar No. 305705)  
20 alyolson@quinnemanuel.com

Alexander P. Frawley (*pro hac vice*)  
afrawley@susmangodfrey.com

21 865 S. Figueroa Street, 10th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.

1301 Avenue of the Americas, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10019

22 Telephone: (213) 443-3000

Tel: (212) 336-8330

Facsimile: (213) 443-3100

Amanda Bonn (CA Bar No. 270891)  
abonn@susmangodfrey.com

23 Jomaire A. Crawford (admitted *pro hac vice*)  
24 jomairecrawford@quinnemanuel.com

SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.

1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1400  
Los Angeles, CA 90067

51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor

Tel: (310) 789-3100

25 New York, NY 10010

Telephone: (212) 849-7000

John A. Yanchunis (*pro hac vice*)  
jyanchunis@forthepeople.com

26 Facsimile: (212) 849-7100

Ryan J. McGee (*pro hac vice*)  
rmcgee@forthepeople.com

MORGAN & MORGAN, P.A.

201 N Franklin Street, 7th Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602

1 Josef Ansorge (admitted *pro hac vice*)  
josefansorge@quinnemanuel.com  
2 Xi ("Tracy") Gao (CA Bar No. 326266)  
tracygao@quinnemanuel.com  
3 Carl Spilly (admitted *pro hac vice*)  
carlspilly@quinnemanuel.com  
4 1300 I Street NW, Suite 900  
Washington D.C., 20005  
5 Telephone: (202) 538-8000  
6 Facsimile: (202) 538-8100

Tel: (813) 223-5505  
Fax: (813) 222-4736

Michael F. Ram (CA Bar No. 104805)  
mram@forthepeople.com  
MORGAN & MORGAN, P.A.  
711 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Tel: (415) 358-6913

*Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

7 Jonathan Tse (CA Bar No. 305468)  
jonathantse@quinnemanuel.com  
8 50 California Street, 22nd Floor  
9 San Francisco, CA 94111  
10 Telephone: (415) 875-6600  
Facsimile: (415) 875-6700

11 *Attorneys for Defendant Google LLC*  
12  
13  
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**ATTESTATION OF CONCURRENCE**

I am the ECF user whose ID and password are being used to file this Joint Motion for Issuance of Letter of Request for International Judicial Assistance and Appointment of Commissioners to Take Evidence Pursuant to Chapter II, Article 17 of The Hague Convention of 18 March 1970 on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters. Pursuant to Civil L.R. 5-1(i)(3), I hereby attest that each of the signatories identified above has concurred in the filing of this document

Dated: March 14, 2022

By /s/ Andrew H. Schapiro  
Andrew H. Schapiro  
*Counsel on behalf of Google*